

NOTES ON SOME VIRGINIAN SPECIES OF PLATYPEZA (PLATYPEZIDAE, DIPT.)

BY NATHAN BANKS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

About five or six species of this genus have been recorded from the Eastern States, one of which (*P. pallipes*), goes in the genus or subgenus *Calotarsa*. Of the others there are few records. I have collected several local species and in identifying them find that five are new; several others may represent new species. There is some sexual dimorphism in the genus, so I have based the new species only on males. Johnson has claimed this dimorphism in *P. pallipes*, and what I consider the female of *P. flavicornis* differs radically in the abdominal markings and color of the halteres from the male.

The species known to me are separable as follows:

MALES

1. Posterior cross-vein fully its length from the hind margin2.
 Posterior cross-vein not its length from the hind margin; submedian rows
 of fine bristles on the mesonotum; hind tarsi black5.
2. Abdomen wholly velvety black above3.
 Abdomen not wholly velvety black above4.
3. Antennæ yellowish; fourth vein plainly bent down a little before the pos-
 terior cross-vein; third section of fourth vein much longer than fourth
 section of fourth vein*flavicornis*.
 Antennæ dark; fourth vein not bent down before posterior cross-vein; third
 and fourth sections nearly subequal.*minorata*.
4. Abdomen shining above, no spots on the segments*nitida*.
 Abdomen with three pale pollinose spots on fourth segment*submacula*.
 Abdomen with velvety black median spots on fifth and sixth segments.
 *mediana*.
5. Abdomen with gray marginal spots*teniata*.
 Abdomen black, unspotted6.
6. Abdomen broadly rounded; costal cell extending far beyond end of first
 basal cell*velutina*.
 Abdomen elongate; costal cell extending only a little beyond end of first
 basal cell*elongata*.

FEMALES.

1. Posterior cross-vein not its length from the hind margin2.
 Posterior cross-vein fully its length from the hind margin3.

2. Abdomen black above, unspotted; halteres dark*velutina*.
 Abdomen gray, banded with black; halteres pale*tæniata*.
 3. Abdomen black, with pale lateral spots; halteres pale*flavicornis*.

In this table *P. obscura* Loew would go to "2." and there separated by "Abdomen black, with pale lateral spots."

***Platypeza flavicornis* Loew.**

Several specimens from Falls Church and Great Falls, Va., all in August.

What I consider the female of this species has little gray spots on extreme margin of the abdominal segments above, with a cinereous band across base of abdomen. It will thus agree with the description of *P. obscura* Loew, but that species is said to have the posterior cross vein near the hind margin.

***Platypeza tæniata* Snow.**

Females from Great Falls, 9 Sept., have the bands on the abdomen not widened in the middle and thus dividing the gray. But I also have several in which the black bands are widened on middle, so that the gray is divided, and a male which also is marked on the same plan. These may form a variety or new species. These latter are from Falls Church, Aug. and Sept., and the male 15 Nov. In this species the costal cell reaches barely beyond the end of the first basal cell.

***Platypeza submacula* new species.**

Male.—Black, face gray pollinose; basal joints of the antennæ pale; palpi pale; legs rather pale (or perhaps not fully colored). Abdomen velvety black, the fourth segment above with three large gray pollinose spots, last segment gray; halteres dark. Wings hyaline, the posterior cross-vein once and a-half its length from the margin, third section of fourth vein much longer than fourth section; the upturned section not very long; auxiliary vein ends only a little beyond anterior cross-vein. Scutellum with two bristles on hind edge. Length 2.7 mm.

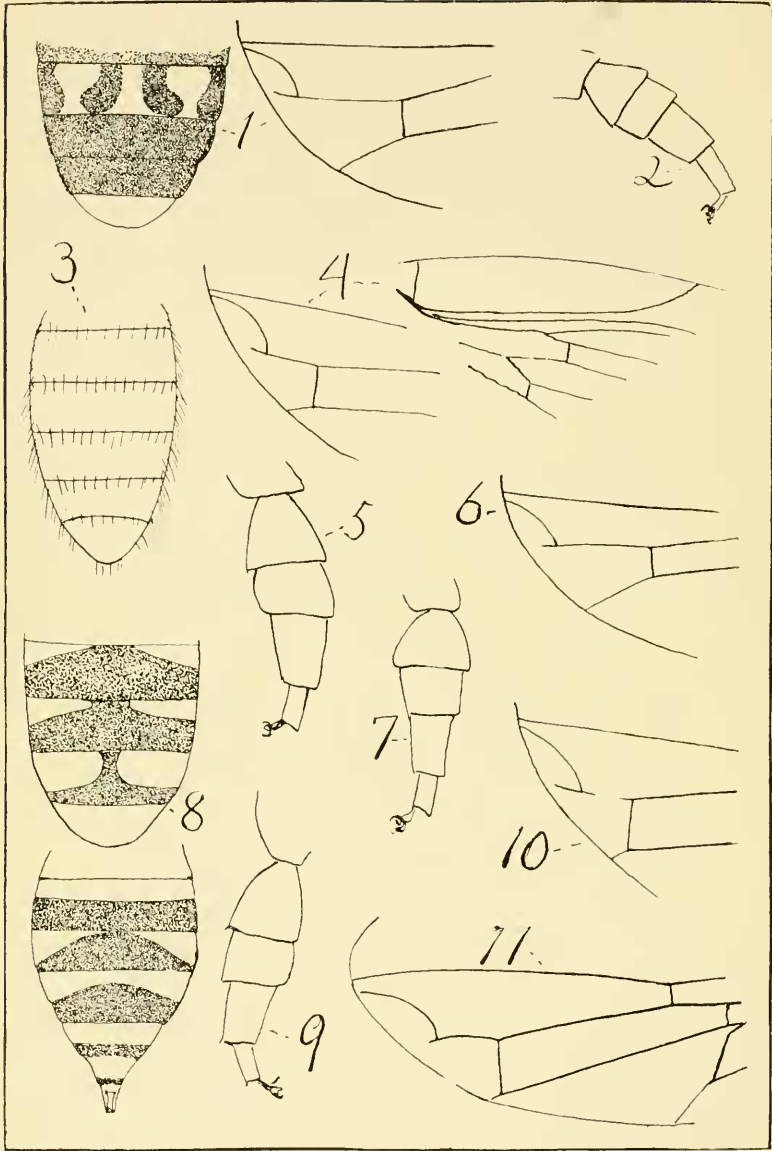
From Great Falls, Va., 9 Sept.

***Platypeza velutina* Loew.**

Both sexes from Falls Church, in May and June.

***Platypeza minorata* new species.**

Male.—Black, face gray pollinose; palpi pale; antennæ dark; abdomen velvety black, last segment gray; legs dark, tarsi pale, hind tarsi yellowish white; scutellum with a large bristle each side on the margin, and one or two



Platypezidæ.